Review of adverse effects on Indian industries

† 779. SHRI E K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister. ©^COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reviewthe adverse-effects on the Indian industries as a result of lifting of import-export restrictions under the World Trade agreement;

(b) if so, the names of such worst-affected industries which have been brought to the notice of Goverment; and

(c) by when Government propose to complete this review?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLIMARAN): (a) to (c) Representations have been received from certain sections of domestic industry expressing their apprehensions about the likely adverse *impact* of import restrictions removal. The industries, which have-represented on the issue, include producers of umbrella, glass/ ceramic products salt, footwear, toy, writing instruments, automotive tyres, marble and edible oil etc.

Government has decided to constitute an Inter-Ministerial Group to study the impact of removal of quantitative restrictions. Besides, a Group of Ministers has been entrusted with the task of suggesting ways and means of empowering the SSI Sector. The group will be suggesting remedial measures from time to time.

Increase in import duty on edible oil

† 780.PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representative from edible oil industry have demanded increase *in* import duty edible oil;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken or propose to take any decision on the said demand; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and what will beits effect on the oil producers in the country in the import duty is not increased?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCEAND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Based on representations received from edible oil industry and from growers of oil seeds, the customs duty on import of edible has been incresed on 12.6.2000.

The total duty of customs on 'Edible grade crude vegetable oils (excluding coconut oil, palm oil and its fractions whether refined or not) imported in loose or bulk form for the manufacture of vanaspati or for refining' has been increased from 16.5% to 27.5% the duty on "Refined vegetable Oils (other than coconut oil, RBD palm oil, RBD palm kernel *oil* and palm stearin) of edible grade in loose or bulk form" has been increased from 32.6% to 44.04%. Similarly the duty on 'Coconut oil and Refined palm oil' has been incresed from 44.04% to 50.8%.

News *item* "EU rice policy, hits basmati"

781. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem "EU rice policy hits basmati" published in the Economic Times, dated 2nd July, 2000; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCEAND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(h) EU's proposal to end the intervention price it still at the proposal stage.

FDI in trading subsidiaries

782. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHJTHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working on a new policy to govern FDI in trading subsidiaries dealing in retail trading; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?